Application No. 10/598,240

Art Unit: 1793

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

- 1. (Cancelled).
- 2. (Currently Amended) The coloration agent according to Claim 1 claim 7 or 8, wherein the shot waste is produced as a by-product of shot blasting an iron-based metal.
- 3. (Previously Presented) A color developing clay for ceramic articles comprising a clay raw material admixed with 1 to 5 wt% of the coloration agent according to Claim 1 or 2 claim 7 or 8.
- 4-6. (Cancelled).
- 7. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A coloration agent for use in ceramic articles of claim 4, comprising a metal powder separated from a shot waste

wherein the shot waste is an iron based metal,

the metal powder contains a metal oxide powder as a raw material, and

the metal powder is comprised of 70 to 80 wt% of total iron.

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Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
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8. (Previously Presented) The coloration agent for use in ceramic articles of claim 7, wherein the metal powder is comprised of 60 to 65 wt% of ferric oxide powder.

9. (Currently Amended) The coloration agent of elaim 1 claim 7, wherein the coloration agent is mixed with at least one oxide selected from the group consisting of copper oxide, manganese oxide, chromium oxide, cobalt oxide and vanadium oxide.

10-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) The color developing clay for ceramic articles of claim 3, wherein the clay raw material is a Kaolinite.